Adulteration of Fertilizers

1267. SHRI V. RAJAN CHELLAPPA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the problems of the farmers of Tamil Nadu in regard to adulteration of fertilizers during the years 1992-93 and 1994-95;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the action taken against persons found guilty in this matter during the above period; and

(d) the further steps proposed to be taken by Government to ensure that adulteration in fertilizer is not made in future?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S. KRISHNA KUMAR): (a) to (d) No complaint regarding adulteration of fertilizer in Tamil Nadu during the year 1992-93 and 1994-95 has been reported.

All fertilisers are subject to quality regulation under Fertiliser (Control) Order, 1985 (FCO) which empowers the State Government to take action on the complaints regarding sale of spurious, non-standard and adulterated fertilisers. Quality control laboratories have been set up in different parts of the country to analyse samples of fertilisers drawn by fertiliser inspectors notified by the State Government for ensuring that farmers are supplied with standard quality fertilisers. Eight such laboratories with an analysing capacity of 14280 samples per annum are functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu. Besides, the periodical returns on the quality control status submitted by the State Government are reviewed critically to check adulteration of fertilisers.

Implementation of Interim Award of Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal

1268. SHRI S. MADHAVAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) what are the steps taken to implement the interim award of the cauvery water dispute tribunals;

(b) whether Government of Tamil Nadu requested the Central Government to take action, to release water to Tamil Nadu as per the interim-award; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to release water to Tamil Nadu?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) The Cauvery Water Dispute Tribunal's Interim Order dated 25th June, 1991 was published in the Official Gazette on 10th December, 1991 making it final and binding on the party States.

Further, a Standing Committee of Experts has been set up with the concurrence of the four basin States/ Union Territory namely, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Kerala and Pondicherry on 21st January, 1994 under the Chairmanship of Chief Engineer (Southern Region), Central Water Commission, Coimbatore with Chief Engineer/ Principal Engineer of Cauvery Basin States/Union territory as its Members. The Committee is to assess and reconcile the flows at Billingundulu Hydrological Observation site of Central Water Commission and Mettur Reservoir in Tamil Nadu.

The water flowing downstream of Billingundulu Hydrological Observation Station enters Mettur and reservoir after covering a distance of only 10 Kms.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The Tribunal has already clarified that in case hereinafter there is any change of circumstance or undue hardship is caused in a particular year to any party, it will be open to such party to approach the Tribunal for appropriate orders.